

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

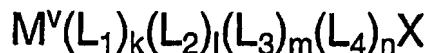
Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 37 through page 2, line 17 and insert the following therefore:

This object is achieved in that at least one imine ligand according to formula 1 where the imine ligand is contacted with a metal-organic reagent of formula 2 in the presence of at least 1 equivalent of an inorganic or metal-organic base, or an HA adduct of an imine ligand according to formula 1, is contacted with a metal-organic reagent of formula 2 in the presence of at least 2 equivalents of an inorganic or metal-organic base, where



as formula 1,

where Y is selected from a substituted carbon, nitrogen, or phosphorous atom and R represents a proton, a protic or an aprotic substituent, and:



as formula 2,

where M represents a group 4 or group 5 metal ion, V represents the valency of the metal ion, being 3, 4 or 5,  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$ ,  $L_3$ , and  $L_4$  represent ligands on M which may be the same or different, X represents a group 17-halogen atom, k, l, m, n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 with  $k+l+m+n+1=V$ , and where HA represents an acid, of which H represents its proton and A its conjugated base.